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PAGES 1 TO 16

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EUROPE LONGING FOR PEACE, SAYS DR. SCHEIDEMANN

Socialist Member of Reichstag, Who Provoked Chancellor's Noted Address, Declares Europe is Ruining Itself By Continuing War—Germany in Position to Talk Peace, He Says—War of Conquest Not Desired, His Assertion.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—Addressing the Reichstag yesterday at the conclusion of the Imperial Chancellor's first speech, Dr. Scheidemann, Socialist, and the author of the interpellation to which Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg replied, paid a tribute to the German troops.

He disclaimed all desire to diminish their strength or rob them of the fruit of their labors but he asserted that the war was growing more sanguinary day by day, the number of victims daily was being augmented and there was sorrow in all lands. Is it therefore remarkable, he asked, that the question being asked in all nations is "How much longer?" and that all nations would rejoice if the war should find a rapid end.

"We Germans, unlike our enemies, can talk of peace," he said. "Therefore, we must do it. We, like our enemies, reject all thought of a war of conquest. A longing for peace is making itself evident in all countries. Europe is ruining itself and the neutrals are doing a brilliant business at its expense."

The German people, Dr. Scheidemann declared, were united in the determination to carry on the war until victory had been gained, but were also united in the determination not to wage the war a moment longer than was necessary to this end.

Dr. Peter Spahn, vice-president of the Reichstag and leader of the Center Party, read in the name of all the non-Socialist parties the following declaration:

"We, too, wish to end this war forced upon us. We look with admiration and gratitude upon the untarnished, victorious progress of all our troops who, with our brave Austro-Hungarian, Bulgarian and Turkish allies, are marching from success to success, who have carried our glorious

banners far into the enemy's lands, and have just destroyed the Serbian army. We rely upon the unshakable positions of our armies which guarantee us and our allies complete success in the war. We look to the success in the war, and the financial might of our nation and country, which have assured us of our food and maintained its armament sufficiently. "We await in complete unity, with calm determination and confidence in God, the hour which will make possible peace negotiations whereby the military and other interests of Germany will be permanently assured in all measures, including such extensions of territory as are necessary for this purpose."

(Continued on Page 2.)

HOKE SMITH ASKS THAT CONGRESS ACT TO STOP BRITISH SHIP SEIZURES

Georgia Senator Says Protests of State Department Have Been Met By Increased Act of Lawlessness.

Would Let Great Britain Understand That "No Word or Act Will Be Omitted" to Sustain Our Rights.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, in an address in the Senate today called upon Congress to insist that Great Britain cease interfering with neutral commerce. He declared that protests by the American state department had been met by increased lawlessness and trampling upon neutral rights.

"The United States, with other nations, should demand from Great Britain," said the Senator, "that disregard of their rights cease. It may be necessary for the United States and other neutrals to let Great Britain understand that 'no word or act' will be omitted to enforce their rights."

British merchants and shippers are profiting greatly, he asserted, by exporting the very character of goods seized when shipped by the United States to neutral European ports.

"The blockade of neutral ports is a deliberate disregard of the rights of the United States," said Senator Smith. "There can be no pretense that it is sustained by the customs of nations. Indeed, there is not such pretense. There is a bold, reckless disregard of that freedom of the seas which is the right of neutrals by the customs of nations and the rules of international law."

"For eight months this disregard of the sovereign rights of all neutral countries has been permitted to continue, to the serious injury of the commerce of their citizens." The Senator said that Great Britain could be excused on the ground that the United States had acted illegally and improperly in a similar way in the Civil war, but he quoted from the decision of the United States supreme court in the *Bermuda* and *Springbok* cases and said:

"In these cases the right of seizure was based, not on the blockade of neutral ports, but on the fact that shippers had arranged a continuous voyage for the good by sea into a blockade port."

Remarking that the relations between the United States and Great Britain had been growing easier for a hundred years or more, the senator said:

"But we are not a dependency of Great Britain." Germany, too, he said, always had been a friend of the United States and many American citizens love that country only second to their own. "The United States, therefore, owes it to her citizens and to her friends to maintain a real neutrality," said Senator Smith.

ALLIES TO WITHDRAW IN SERBIA?

Berlin and London Hear Report that Anglo-French Expedition Will Retreat From Serb Territory.

Berlin, Dec. 10.—According to information received in military quarters here, the Anglo-French expedition in the Balkans has continued its retreat and has now entirely evacuated Serbian territory.

London Hears Report London, Dec. 10.—What seems to be an intimation that the troops of the entente allies contemplate evacuating Serbian territory, if they have not already done so, is contained in a statement declared in a Reuter dispatch from Saloniki to have been issued by the French general staff on the Balkan front.

Kitchener Meets Poincare Paris, Dec. 10.—Sir Edward Grey, the British secretary for foreign affairs, and Earl Kitchener, secretary for war, who are in Paris for conferences with French government officials, were received today by President Poincare. President Poincare gave a luncheon to the British cabinet and under secretaries of state.

Danish Vessel Sunk London, Dec. 10.—The Danish steamer *Minsk* has been sunk. The crew was saved. The *Minsk* was a steamer of a gross tonnage of 1,229. She was owned in Copenhagen. The vessel sailed from Blythe, Eng., on November 13, but shipping records do not give her destination.

FRENCH CRUISER FIRED ON U. S. SHIP, IS CLAIM

San Juan, Porto Rico, Dec. 10.—Four blank shots and two solid shots were fired from the French cruiser *Descaartes* in holding up the American steamship *Coamo* yesterday. A French lieutenant who boarded the *Coamo* said orders had been given to take all subjects of Germany and her allies from ships' crews, beginning Dec. 8, and to take all such persons from among the passengers after Dec. 18.

METHODISTS TO SELL CHURCH TO HOTEL BUILDERS

Option Signed Putting Value of \$125,000 on First M. E. Property.

CHURCH HAS THREE AVAILABLE SITES

Ten Story Hostelry Planned For Broad Street and Fairfield Avenue.

Options have been signed for a realty deal which will convey the First Methodist church at the northeast corner of Fairfield avenue and Broad street, to one of the largest hotel syndicates in the United States. It is proposed to erect on the site a ten story, modern fire-proof hotel.

The Methodist church, the home of probably the oldest Methodist society in New England, reared in 1822 and rebuilt in 1849, will soon be torn down.

The Methodist society has options upon the T. C. Wordin tract, now owned by Edward Spargo, at State street and West avenue, and upon the property of Marcus O. Wheeler at the corner of Washington and Park avenues, and also a site at the corner of Iranistan and Fairfield avenues.

In banking circles it became known today that an option had been signed by the trustees putting a figure on the property of \$125,000.

The hotel corporation is said to be one of the largest in the United States, with their operating companies now running chain of about 40 high-class commercial and residential hotels throughout eastern and middle western states.

Further confirmation of the pending sale of the church was given today when city hall today as the result of visits of real estate agents upon Mayor Wilson in an effort to buy the property occupied by the McGahey blacksmith shop, owned by Mayor Wilson's deceased mother, which is now part of her estate.

Efforts to buy the property of Veterinary Surgeon Robert D. Martin, Broad and Elm streets, have failed and the hotel company will not seek further acquisitions in the city. The McGahey blacksmith shop, located on a frontage of about 120 feet on Fairfield avenue and 172 feet depth on Broad street. Negotiations have been carried on through out-of-town agents. Plans of the structure could not be obtained today.

That the building would be immediately started was the report in banking circles where it is known that considerable sums of money will be advanced to the concern, representatives of which have already visited local bankers.

The First Methodist Church society is probably the oldest in New England since it traces its beginning back to the preaching of Jesse Lee, founder of Methodism in this country in 1789. Its earliest history was in the Stratfield section. When the first Methodist society met here back in the year 1802 it was in a wooden building standing at the corner of Main and State streets.

In 1822, Rev. John Newton Maffett, an evangelist, spent a portion of the year in Bridgeport and regularly preached in the old church. In the same year measures were taken for the erection of their first house of worship in this city. Members of the society were then organized and became an ecclesiastical body according to the plan of the Methodist Episcopal church. The first pastor was Nathaniel Ruggles, Benjamin Penfield, Agur Bassett, Richard Fuller and Stephen Duran.

At the first meeting for the purpose (Continued on Page 7.)

RED TAPE IN SALE OF SEELEY'S TRACT TO JOSEPH FRISBIE

Must Be Used For Residences and Houses Must Cost More Than \$10,000.

Joseph P. Frisbie, president and treasurer of the Frisbie Pie Co., of this city, has purchased a part of what is known as the Seeley tract in Brookline, Mass. The bank has loaned him there that will cost in the neighborhood of \$20,000. According to the stamps on the deed of transfer which was filed in the town clerk's office today, Mr. Frisbie paid \$7,000 for the plot. It is an irregular tract with a frontage of 356 feet on Brookline avenue, 200 feet on Sterling place, 105 feet along Dewey street and 200 feet along remainder of the Seeley property adjoining.

There is a stipulation in the deed of transfer that the property must be used for residential purposes only and that no house costing less than \$10,000 shall be erected on the premises. No building shall be erected nearer than 20 feet to the sidewalk in Sterling place. The tract faces the so-called parade ground in Brookline.

The heirs of the Seeley tract who transferred the property are Gertrude B. Robert C. and Frank E. Seeley of Bridgeport and Harry S. Seeley of Waterbury. Mr. Frisbie was out of the city today and it could not be ascertained as to when he will build.

NEW BILLS SWAMP PRINTERS

Washington, Dec. 10.—Although the big presses of the government printing office are running night and day the printing of all the bills which flooded the House and Senate on the opening days of the session has not yet been completed. The task is expected to be finished tomorrow.

BANK WILL RAZE 5-STORY BLOCK FOR NEW HOME

Bridgeport Savings Bank Announces Plan to Tear Down Big Structure.

BUYS ADJOINING STATE ST. LAND

Decides Against Continuing Rental of Property Above Counting Rooms.

Announcement was made today by Samuel M. Hawley, treasurer of the Bridgeport Savings Bank, officer of State and Main streets, that the handsome five-story brick building now occupied by them as a bank and office property, together with the adjoining property at 150-61 State street, will soon be torn down to be replaced by a handsome one-story banking edifice that will not only beautify the section but care for their enormously increasing business.

It is expected that the new structure will rear its walls and be ready for occupancy by the summer of 1916, if plans and construction work can be expedited. During the reconstruction process the bank will occupy temporary quarters in the Court Exchange building, Broad and State streets.

The demolition of the present five-story structure built in 1878 and remodeled but a few years ago comes as a great surprise to realty men throughout the city and determination upon the bank officials to rebuild only a one-story building is taken to indicate that upstairs rentals are considered of small profit in financial sections.

The new building will have a frontage of 48 feet on State street, a depth of 60 feet on Main street and the westerly wall will extend south on the Platt-Ritch property to a depth of 73 feet.

The present banking structure, of red brick five stories in height, at present houses 14 tenants, including lawyers, studios and offices of the Mountain Grove Cemetery association, all of whom will be seeking rentals elsewhere about January 1.

The Platt-Ritch building at 159 State street was formerly occupied on the lower floor by Rees Brothers for nearly a decade. The upper stories are rented by a barber shop and apartments. The structure is four stories high, covered with stucco.

The determination to rebuild quickly is said by officers to result from the enormous growth of the bank during the past year, from December to December, figures of which show that 4,887 new deposit accounts have been opened in this one bank alone, at an average of 16 new accounts a day. The number of transactions in the deposit department of the savings bank alone increased from 44,800 a year ago to 67,200 this year—a 50 per cent. increase in one year's time. The bank now has 19,450 depositors.

Deposits in the Bridgeport Savings bank during the twelve months passed the nine million mark, being \$9,072,686.40, a gain of \$603,900 from December, 1914. The bank started in 1842 and the amount of dividends paid during 145 consecutive semi-annual periods is announced today as \$9,587,635.38. This year alone the bank paid dividends of \$227,796. The bank has loaned for real estate during the past six months \$810,851.60, showing that it has done a large share towards the development of the city.

It is believed that during the next six months the business will have increased greatly over the ratio shown for the past year, as the greater volume of business has been done during the past three months and every indication towards increase in every department is shown.

The Bridgeport Savings Bank was incorporated in 1842. Prior to that year there were no savings banks in western Connecticut. No banks had been chartered but of these only six now exist.

The incorporators of the Bridgeport Savings Bank as shown by the records of 1842 were prominent men of the community at that period.

Business was first transacted in the wholesale iron and steel warehouse of George Sterling on Water street. The next year the business was removed to the northwest corner of Water and Wall streets now occupied by Max Blumberg's store. In 1845 the bank removed to 21 Wall street and in 1850 purchased land at the southwest corner of State and Main streets from Joseph Banks and Poll Sterling. They occupied a small two-story building until 1878 when a brick structure was erected, which was remodeled within the present decade.

Among the presidents during this period of time are Sherman Sterling, Smith Tweedy, David O. Wheeler, Lemuel Coleman, Thomas Sterling, Higby and Edmund S. Hawley.

The present officers are Frederick B. Hawley, president; Arthur W. Burritt and Edgar W. Bassick, vice presidents; Samuel M. Hawley, treasurer; George C. Edwards, Hamilton S. Shelton, Charles W. Hawley, John S. Fullman, Isaac W. Birdsey, William R. Brewster, Stiles P. Goodsell and Willis F. Hobbs, trustees.

G-3 NOT LAUNCHED.

Though it was expected that the submarine torpedo boat G-3 now placed in commission by the United States government, would be launched at the Lake yards today, it had not taken the water at a late hour this afternoon, the tide being blamed by officers for the delay. The tug Robert McAllister and Clara Williams were standing by to pick her up when the tide became favorable.

Senator Tillman, chairman of the naval affairs committee, will introduce in the Senate a bill for the establishment of a government armor plate factory.

CITY SPENDS NINE MILLION BUILDING WORK FOR YEAR ECLIPSING FORMER RECORDS

THREE DIE AS FLAMES RAZE HOME

Tylerville, Conn., Dec. 10.—Three persons were burned to death here early today when their home located near the Tylerville Camp Ground, was destroyed by fire. The charred bodies were found in the ruins several hours later.

The victims were Joseph Ball and his wife and their son, Jacob. Ball and his wife were each about 50 years and the son 18. The house, an old building was in an unfrequented section.

The body of the man was found near the door while that of his wife was some distance away. The son's body was found in the cellar where it had fallen when the floor gave way. From the position of the man's body, Medical Examiner L. J. Loewe, of the town of Haddam, said, Ball evidently had tried to get to the door, but was overcome by the smoke and suffocated. It was believed that the fire started from a wood fire which had been left in the stove over night.

COLUMBUS GIVES PRESIDENT WARM PUBLIC GREETING

Cheering Throngs Meet Executive, Guest of City For Two Big Meetings.

Columbus, O., Dec. 10.—President Wilson arrived here at 8:45 today to deliver two addresses and attend a public reception in the rotunda of the state capitol. He was greeted by an enthusiastic cheering crowd at the railroad station.

In spite of the cold the crowds filled the streets on the route to the President's hotel and applauded as he passed. The President was met at the door of the hotel by a committee led by Gifford Pinchot, former United States forester, and William P. Tracy, president of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

A guard of regular soldiers and National Guardsmen and police were on duty to escort the President, a troop of cavalrymen riding beside the President's automobile. At the station and at the hotel special details of police kept back the crowds.

All the windows of buildings along the route were filled with people. The President frequently lifted his hat and bowed to the crowds. At the hotel the door of his automobile was opened by a gorgeously liveried footman with a bouquet of flowers in his hand. The President smiled when he saw his regalia. The lobby of the hotel was packed with people, but soldiers kept the way for the President and his party to reach an elevator. At the hotel, the members of the reception committee were introduced by Senator Pomeroy and Representative Hiram Brough.

Mr. Wilson then retired to his room to work on the two addresses he was to deliver later in the day. In the crowd which packed the lobby of the President's hotel were many Ohio politicians, who discussed the prospects for the next Presidential campaign with Secretary Tumulty, and other members of Mr. Wilson's party.

The program for the remainder of the day included a luncheon of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce at noon at the Masonic Temple, a reception this afternoon at the state capitol, under the auspices of the Franklin County Democratic organization and the County Life meeting tonight of the Church of Christ in America. The President will leave immediately after the last meeting for Washington, where he will arrive tomorrow afternoon.

Judge John E. Fahey, Of Rockville, Will Address Local A.O.U.W.

Judge John E. Fahey of Rockville, grand master workman of the jurisdiction of Connecticut and New York, Ancient Order of United Workmen is to be tendered a reception by Farren lodge of this city on Tuesday, Dec. 14. Judge Fahey has long been active in the A. O. U. W. and his recent elevation to the head of the order in this section, is a deserving tribute to his zealous labors for the order as well as to his ability. Judge Fahey has been feted by clubs in Rockville and Hartford since his election. He is an orator of marked ability and will make an interesting address. His coming here will be his first official visit as grand master workman. There will be an entertainment and a banquet. The committee in charge is: Thomas D. Reid, Felix S. Meigs, Harry Nichols, D. W. DeLancy, Walter R. Dorr and Charles J. O'Neil.

England spent \$60,000,000 for horses in the United States from the beginning of the war to July.

Expenditure Involved in Construction Work For 1915 More Than Double That in Biggest Building Years in City's History—Remington Plants Alone Run Well Into the Millions—Commissioners' Records Show Startling Growth.

Bridgeport's epochal building boom has brought construction work to Bridgeport, during the year nearing its close, aggregating in value more than eight million dollars.

Figures in the office of the board of building commissioners, who issue permits for all building, and who place an estimate on the cost of each structure for which a permit is granted, show that the calendar year 1915, up to the end of the first week in December, has witnessed building operations, reaching to \$8,177,220.

Most of the amount is represented in factory construction that is complete, the plants reared by the Remington corporations aggregating several millions.

The work of the year is much more than double that of any year in Bridgeport's history. There remains practically the entire month of December for the issuance of permits which will swell the total. One builder estimated today that the total value of permits for the year would fall little short of nine million dollars.

ROMANCE ON HIGH SEAS RESULTS IN A MARRIAGE HERE

Interned German Officer Weds Miss Bertha Klagges of Bridgeport.

The story of a romance that had its inception on the Atlantic ocean became known today when the illness of Heinrich Froemke, fourth officer of the Hamburg-American liner *Fennsylvania*, became so acute that he had to be operated upon.

Froemke recently obtained the hand in marriage of Miss Bertha Klagges of 1485 Park avenue, this city. His ship is interned and he has a leave of absence for the time he remains in the United States.

An affection of the stomach that has become serious necessitated an operation and today at the Galen hospital his condition is said to be satisfactory. He has since suffered gastric troubles for several years.

Froemke, whose home is in Hamburg, has made many trips over the Atlantic during his career as an officer on passenger carrying ocean liners. Several years ago he met Miss Klagges, when she was on a trip from Germany. The friendship, begun on the well filled steamer deck, ripened as time lengthened and the couple saw much of each other.

He came to Bridgeport and here acquaintance rapidly ripened into love and wedlock in this city about three weeks of this city in the superior court this afternoon. She cited this as one instance of cruelty upon which Gloyd she asked for a divorce from Gloyd.

Mrs. Gloyd claimed her husband's cruelty began soon after their marriage in 1910. She told of one occasion when he told her to go downstairs for some coal, remarking "What have I got you for anyway?" As she stood at the top of the stairs Gloyd pushed her down to the bottom and then kicked her. As a result of continued cruel treatment Mrs. Gloyd had to undergo two operations. She finally left her husband in 1914. Several witnesses told of Gloyd's cruelty. Judge Case granted the divorce.

Husband Kicked Her Into Cellar to Get Coal, Wife Asserts

"I wish to God you were dead and out of the way," was the remark Augustus H. Gloyd hurled at his wife, according to the testimony of Clara Bell Gloyd, when she appeared in court this afternoon. She cited this as one instance of cruelty upon which Gloyd she asked for a divorce from Gloyd.

Mrs. Gloyd claimed her husband's cruelty began soon after their marriage in 1910. She told of one occasion when he told her to go downstairs for some coal, remarking "What have I got you for anyway?" As she stood at the top of the stairs Gloyd pushed her down to the bottom and then kicked her. As a result of continued cruel treatment Mrs. Gloyd had to undergo two operations. She finally left her husband in 1914. Several witnesses told of Gloyd's cruelty. Judge Case granted the divorce.

Spile Slips Out of Groove and Strikes Workman in Charge

John Tassi, aged 40, married and living at 539 Housatonic avenue, narrowly escaped serious injury at the dock of the Bridgeport Brass Co. Tuesday afternoon when a 60-foot spile which had just been placed in the groove of the spile driver slipped and in falling sideways struck Tassi a glancing blow on the forehead. He suffered a laceration of the scalp and possible concussion of the brain.

SOUND STEAMER DISABLED

New York, Dec. 10.—The Colonial line steamer *Concord*, shortly after leaving here for Boston, last night, broke one of the blades of her propeller and was compelled to return to her dock. Passengers on the *Concord* will go by another ship of the line today.

The estimated cost of buildings for which permits were issued this year is more than twice that of 1914, when permits for buildings estimated to cost \$2,734,474, were granted. This had been the busiest year in building activity the city had experienced, up to that time. The year before, in 1913, permits for buildings, the estimated cost of which were \$2,951,547, were issued. It will be seen by these figures that the total cost of the buildings already complete or in course of construction here now is greater than the past two years put together. The figures are for the calendar year. The building commissioners make out their reports for a fiscal year beginning August 30.

Included are massive factory buildings which the Remington-Union Works have built. These alone aggregate several million dollars. There is also included the big additions to the Bridgeport Brass Co. has made to its plants, the additions to the Harvey Hubbell factory and additions to other factories. The new business block now occupied by the Dwyer Co. in Main street, hundreds of three-decker tenement houses and many dwellings of brick or wood, some completed and others in the course of construction, are also included.

Permits for buildings to cost \$1,103,640 were issued during the week of April 17, which marks high water for any one week in the history of Bridgeport as far as the cost is concerned. In this week four permits were granted, the number each week U. M. C. Co. for buildings which would cost more than \$200,000 each.

During the week commencing Feb. 13, six permits for buildings to cost \$3,760 were issued. This was the smallest estimated cost for any week of the year. It is believed that before the close of the year permits will have been granted for buildings to cost at least eight and a half million dollars.

The weeks in which the permits were granted, the number each week and aggregated cost follows:

Week	No. Granted	Estimated Cost
Jan. 2-17	2	\$9,540
" 9-14	4	10,375
" 16-9	9	15,275
" 23-7	7	15,700
" 30-13	8	20,375
Feb. 6-11	6	25,700
" 13-6	6	8,700
" 20-10	10	161,000
" 27-19	19	35,675
Mar. 6-26	26	39,325
" 13-29	29	291,225
" 20-26	6	60,577
" 27-24	24	64,925
April 3-24	24	40,205
" 10-45	45	230,110
" 17-28	28	1,123,640
" 24-18	18	50,477
May 1-25	25	63,646
" 8-30	30	72,665
" 15-25	25	77,187
" 22-28	28	100,125
" 29-30	2	73,452
June 6-28	28	832,534
" 12-38	38	750,265
" 19-14	14	37,545
" 26-23	23	29,120
July 3-29	29	492,815
" 10-26	26	211,750
" 17-37	37	687,237
" 24-26	26	79,616
" 31-51	51	143,850
Aug. 7-52	52	172,632
" 14-48	48	203,600
" 21-28	28	58,440
" 28-31	31	404,855
Sept. 4-27	27	143,025
" 11-20	20	162,125
" 18-30	30	62,575
" 25-54	54	250,640
Oct. 2-54	54	178,630
" 9-35	35	65,350
" 16-15	15	159,735
" 23-39	39	91,490
" 30-52	52	215,934
Nov. 6-50	50	132,005
" 13-21	21	77,100
" 20-38	38	179,675
" 27-30	30	83,145
Dec. 4-50	50	135,545

THE WEATHER

Fair and continued cold tonight, Saturday increasing cloudiness, probably followed by snow Saturday night, strong northwest winds, diminishing.